

Valdosta State University
College of Education
Department of Curriculum, Leadership, and Technology

- 1. Course Prefix and Number:** RSCH 9860
- 2. Course Title:** Advanced Mixed Methodology Research
- 3. Course Prerequisites:** RSCH 9820 or RSCH 9840
- 4. Instructor:** Lantry L. Brockmeier, Ph.D.
Office: 235 Special Education and Communication Disorders
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E-mail: llbrockmeier@valdosta.edu
Office Hours: Monday, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.; Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (face-to-face meeting dates) or Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. (online meeting dates); Thursday, 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.; and online as needed.

Secretary: Keith Johnson
Telephone 229.333.5633

5. Required Textbook:

Mertler, C. A., & Vanatta, R. A. (2005). *Advanced and multivariate statistical methods: Practical application and interpretation* (3rd ed.). Glendale, CA: Pyrczak Publishing.

American Psychological Association (2001). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th ed.). Washington, DC: The Association.

Supplemental Equipment and Programs:

Microphone or webcam and Skype or Windows Live Messenger (free software programs)

6. Course Purpose: The primary purpose of this course is to introduce students to the concepts, methods, and applications of educational research. The emphasis will be placed on methods and applications most frequently encountered in social science research, especially in the field of education.

The successful completion of the course requirements is expected to result in the increased ability to (a) intelligently read and evaluate research literature, (b) recognize the strengths and limitations of statistical analysis in the conduct of disciplined inquiry, (c) communicate with peers and other professionals on research issues, and (d) compute and apply basic descriptive and inferential statistics to real data.

7. College of Education Conceptual Framework Standards (CFS)

1. **CONTENT AND CURRICULUM:** Teachers demonstrate a strong content knowledge of content area(s) and appropriate for their certification levels.
2. **KNOWLEDGE OF STUDENTS AND THEIR LEARNING:** Teachers support the intellectual, social, physical, and personal development of all students.
3. **LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS:** Teachers create learning environments that encourage positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation.
4. **ASSESSMENT:** Teachers understand and use a range of formal and informal assessment strategies to evaluate and ensure the continuous development of all learners.
5. **PLANNING AND INSTRUCTION:** Teachers design and create instructional experiences based on their knowledge of content and curriculum, students, learning environments, and assessment.
6. **PROFESSIONALISM:** Teachers recognize, participate in, and contribute to teaching as a profession.

8. Course Objectives: Students that successfully complete all course requirements should be able to:

1. Identify and describe the concepts, methods, and applications of educational research. (CFS 1 & 6)
2. Identify and describe the major sections and subsections of a research report or proposal. (CFS 1 & 6)
3. Select, calculate, and interpret descriptive statistics, given sets of data. (CFS 1 & 6)
4. Select, calculate, and interpret inferential statistics, given sets of data. (CFS 1 & 6)
5. Given a set of data, develop well-written research questions and write a results section answering the well-written research questions. (CFS 1 & 6)

9. Course Outline:

Class	Date	Topics
1	Jan 23 5-8 pm	Research questions or research hypotheses, variables, data cleaning, scales of measurement, descriptive statistics
2	Jan 24 8:30-11:30 am	Normal distribution, skewness, kurtosis, confidence intervals, and inferential statistics
3	Feb 7 12:30-5:00 pm.	Inferential statistics, effect sizes, and measurement (validity and reliability)
4	Feb 20 5-8 pm	Sampling and research design
5	Feb 21? 8:30-11:30 am	

10. Task Timeline for RSCH 9860 Spring 2009

Task	Due Date
Pretest A and B (Online Activity)	1.22.09
Plagiarism	2.06.09
Trochim Design Summary	2.19.09
Data Analysis Project	2.22.09
Posttest A and B (Online Activity)	2.28.09

11. Student Evaluation Criteria: A weighted combination of the (a) class participation, (b) data analysis project, and (c) posttest will be calculated to determine each student's final score for the class. The assigned weights are:

Class Task Participation	10%
Discussion Board Responses	10%
Assigned Tasks	10%
Data Analysis Project	40%
Posttest	30%
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Total	100.0%

The student's percentage score in each area is multiplied by the appropriate assigned weight and then summed across all assignments. Final grades are assigned based on a 10 point grading scale; A - 100% - 90%, B - 89% - 80%, C - 79% - 70%, D- 69% - 60%, and F - 59% and below.

12. Class Attendance: Graduate students are expected to attend all classes. If circumstances occur that require you to miss a class session, the instructor requests an email or phone message prior to the class session. Two class absences will result in a letter grade reduction for the course. A student missing more than 20% of the scheduled class sessions (see the VSU catalog) will be subject to receiving a failing grade in the course. *Absence from class on an assignment's due date is NOT an acceptable excuse for late work. Any*

assignment turned in after collection of the assignment at the beginning of the class on the specified due date will receive a letter grade reduction. The assigned grade may be reduced one letter grade per day late.

13. Policy Statement on Plagiarism and Cheating: Presented below is the Dewar College of Education Policy Statement on Plagiarism directly quoted from the Academic Honesty Policies and Procedures:

Academic integrity is the responsibility of all VSU faculty and students. Faculty members should promote academic integrity by including clear instruction on the components of academic integrity and clearly defining the penalties for cheating and plagiarism in their course syllabi. Students are responsible for knowing and abiding by the Academic Integrity Policy as set forth in the Student Code of Conduct and the faculty members' syllabi. All students are expected to do their own work and to uphold a high standard of academic ethics.

The full text of Academic Honesty Policies and Procedures is available in the on the Academic Affairs website (<http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/AcademicHonestyatVSU.shtml>).

The consequences for acts of academic dishonesty in the Dewar College of Education are:

FIRST OFFENSE:

1. The faculty member will administer an academic response (e.g. resubmit / retake assignment, failure of the assignment, failure of the course).
2. The faculty member will complete a Level Two Dewar College of Education Concern form (<http://www.valdosta.edu/coe/studentsinfo.shtml>).
3. The faculty member will complete a Valdosta State University Report of Academic Dishonesty (<http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/AcademicHonestyatVSU.shtml>).

SECOND OFFENSE:

1. The faculty member will administer an academic response (e.g. resubmit / retake assignment, failure of the assignment, failure of the course).
2. The faculty member will complete a Level Two Dewar College of Education Concern form (<http://www.valdosta.edu/coe/studentsinfo.shtml>). According to the Dewar College of Education Concern Form Policy, "a second level two concern form will result in the student being dismissed from his/her program of study. This dismissal will result in an automatic review by the COE Undergraduate Policies Committee."
3. The faculty member will complete a Valdosta State University Report of Academic Dishonesty (<http://www.valdosta.edu/academic/AcademicHonestyatVSU.shtml>). According to the Academic Honesty Policies and Procedures document, "after a second (or subsequent) Report of Academic Dishonesty has been submitted to the Student Conduct Office in the Dean of Students Office, official charges will be drawn up and the disciplinary matter will be referred to the Valdosta State University Judicial Committee."

Professional ethics, behavior, and quality are expected in all products and performances. Content copied and pasted from web sites or other sources will not be considered original student work and may not be used under any circumstances without the use of quotation marks and proper APA citations. Any attempt to present the work of another as your own will result in failure in the course.

14. Special Needs Statement: Valdosta State University is an equal opportunity educational institution. It is not the intent of our institution to discriminate against any applicant for admission or any student or employee of the institution based on the sex, race, religion, color, national origin, handicap, veteran status, or sexual orientation of the individual. It is the intent of the institution to comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and subsequent executive orders as well as the Title IX in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Students requesting classroom accommodations or modifications because of a documented disability must contact the Access Office located in Farber Hall. The phone numbers are 229-245-2498 (voice) and 229-219-1348 (tty).

15. References

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